

# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

## WEEDS ON BLACK TOPS

**Before****After**

### **Best Management Practices:**

- Physically remove weeds using a weed eater or industrial street sweeper
- Destroy weed roots and seeds using saturated steam
- Eliminate seed establishment sites by sealing cracks and crevices with a permanent barrier material
- Wear protective gear like closed toe shoes and long pants while operating a weed eater
- Target specific weeds by choosing selective post-emergent herbicides
- Avoid using pre-emergent herbicides on impervious surfaces like blacktops to prevent surface runoff into waterways

### School Pro Tip: Get the worst first!

Have ground crews concentrate on weeds that are either a hazard to kids or present the school poorly in the neighborhood ~

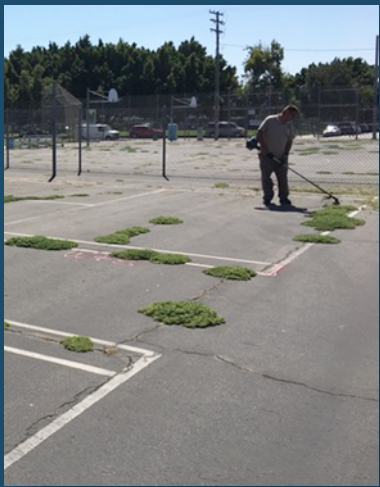
Joe Facio, Long Beach USD

### UC IPM Pro Tip: Get young weeds before they seed.

Weeds quickly produce many seeds and adapt to various environments. Control seeds by removing them when they first emerge for effective weed management.

The Healthy Schools Act promotes the adoption of effective least toxic pest management practices at schoolsites.

# THE 3-STEP METHOD TO REMOVE, ELIMINATE, AND PREVENT STUBBORN BLACKTOP WEEDS!



## Step 1: **Remove**

Joe Facio from Long Beach USD starts the 3-step method by weed eating the green foliage down to the blacktop. For large surface areas, an industrial sweeper can also be used for mechanical removal of weeds.



## Step 2: **Eliminate**

Patrick O'Brien from Long Beach USD applies steam to weeds, which delivers saturated steam directly to the roots killing the entire plant. Steam can also be applied to seeds to prevent them from maturing because the heat sterilizes them on contact.



## Step 3: **Prevent**

Cheryl Wilen, University of California Cooperative Extension Advisor, seals cracks to eliminate seed sites. She pours a polymetric sand product into the crack and sweeps it in for an even application. Then she sprays water on top and in about 30 minutes it sets like concrete.

## Top Of The Class



Joe Facio, Grounds Services Manager, Long Beach USD: I have been employed with LBUSD for 33 years. My IPM team and I are currently adopting new IPM practices and standards

for our school landscapes. We are progressing towards becoming a chemical-free district. If you have questions about how we are making changes, please feel free to contact me at [jfacio@lbschools.net](mailto:jfacio@lbschools.net)

## Share Your Story

What have you done to control weeds on blacktops?

Were you successful?

What hasn't worked?

Tell us your story to be selected for an upcoming newsletter. Email us at [school-ipm@cdpr.ca.gov](mailto:school-ipm@cdpr.ca.gov)

## DPR Resources

### Upcoming workshops:

February 23-24, 2018 in Carmel School and Gopher IPM Workshops

April 6, 2018 in San Bernardino Gopher IPM Workshop

### Weed Management Exposition:

June 19, 2018 in Long Beach

June 22, 2018 in Dixon

All levels of M&O staff are encouraged to attend this full day of demonstrations and speaker presentations.

Register and pay online at: <http://ucanr.edu/ipmexpo>